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### News from the Field.

The World's Woman's Christian Temperance Union has appointed three delegates to represent its Department of Arbitration and Peace at the London Peace Congress. The Superintendent of the Department, which was organized in 1889 and is doing work in fourteen countries, is Mrs. Hannah J. Bailey of Winthrop Centre, Maine.

At the annual meeting of the Intercollegiate Peace Association last month at De Pauw University, Greencastle, Ind., it was decided to extend the organization and work of the association to the other colleges and universities of the United States as rapidly as possible, with a view to making it national. It was also voted to recommend the affiliation of the local students' peace societies with "Corda Fratres," the International Federation of Students in Europe. Marked progress has been shown in the work of the Intercollegiate Peace Association the past year, especially since Mr. George Fulk (Cerro Gordo, Ill.) became secretary in January last. Nineteen local, state and interstate oratorical contests were promoted, *peace literature* was added to many of the colleges, special lectures and other exercises arranged. Three hundred and twenty-five dollars were given in prizes and about one hundred orations and essays prepared by students.

The second number of volume two of *Heiwa*, the organ of the Japan Peace Society, has just reached us. Though a small sheet, it is extremely well edited (the English part), and is full of information about the peace movement, of just the kind which the new native peace workers in Japan need. Besides the native members, the Japan Peace Society now has on its membership list, working side by side with the Japanese, representatives from England, Switzerland, Scotland, Germany, the United States, Russia and Canada.

Rev. Walter Walsh has been doing yeoman service in addressing meetings since the Philadelphia Congress and the Mohonk Conference, which he attended. He has spoken in New York, Philadelphia, Pittsburg, Hartford, New Britain and elsewhere. In New York and Brooklyn he gave addresses, under the auspices of the New York Peace Society, in the Pilgrim Congregational Church, Plymouth Church, Broadway Tabernacle, West Side Y. M. C. A., the Scotch Presbyterian Church, the Presbyterian Ministers' Meeting, and before six great High Schools. The response to his appeals in these schools "was splendid." Interest and enthusiasm have marked his meetings everywhere.

The Friends' Quarterly Meeting at Richmond, Ind., at its meeting on June 6, appointed three delegates to attend the London Peace Congress, which opens on the 27th of July. The Peace Association of Friends in America, with headquarters at Richmond, Ind., will also send four delegates to the Congress.

### Brevities.

. . . The business men at the Lake Mohonk Arbitration Conference, at a special meeting, adopted and reported to the Conference the following resolution:

"The men representing business organizations in various

parts of the country recognize the fact that international arbitration as a substitute for war between nations is a potential proposition; that popular education should be encouraged as the best means to hasten the day of a world's court of justice; that the business men, being vitally interested in this, the greatest cause of humanity, feel it their duty to assume a large share of the financial burden of this educational campaign. They appreciate, further, that they should give time and serious thought to the problems confronting those who are now engaged in the international arbitration movement."

. . . In pursuance of the resolution adopted at the Munich Peace Congress last fall, providing for the appointment of national commissions of competent men to study the subject of limitation of armaments, with a view to practical recommendations, the following have been chosen to constitute the United States Committee: Hon. Theodore E. Burton, M. C.; Hon. Samuel W. McCall, M. C.; Gen. Nelson A. Miles, Washington; Gen. Louis Wagner, Philadelphia; Hon. John H. Stiness, Providence; Hon. Charles S. Hamlin, Boston; Pres. E. D. Warfield, Lafayette College, Easton, Pa.; Dean George W. Kirchwey, Columbia University Law School; Dean William P. Rogers, Cincinnati University Law School; Prof. William I. Hull, Chair of History, Swarthmore College. The first meeting of the committee was held at the Plaza Hotel, New York City, June 11. Hon. Theodore E. Burton of Ohio was made chairman, and Prof. W. I. Hull of Swarthmore, secretary. The committee holds its second meeting at Newport the 3d of this month.

. . . The American Unitarian Association, at its annual meeting in May, adopted the following resolution and appointed Prof. F. G. Peabody of Harvard its delegate to the London Peace Congress:

"Resolved, That in cordially accepting the invitation of the American Peace Society to participate in the Seventeenth Universal Peace Conference, to be held in London, Eng., July 27 to August 1 of this year, the members of the American Unitarian Association, in conference assembled, desire to place on record their profound sympathy with the cause of international peace and amity, and their warm indorsement of the movement to substitute arbitration for war. They desire to commend especially the efforts of the Hague Conference to establish a permanent tribunal before which all disputes between governments and peoples may be brought for adjudication and settlement.

"As followers of those early and devoted apostles of peace in this country, Revs. Dr. Noah Worcester and William Ellery Channing, the members of this religious fellowship feel it incumbent upon them to bear this testimony in behalf of international peace and humanity, to show that the spirit of the fathers has not departed from them, and that they cherish increasingly the example and word of Him who said, "Blessed are the Peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God."

. . . The Northern Baptist Convention held at Oklahoma City, May 21 to 27, adopted the following resolution:

"Resolved, That we approve of all efforts to promote international peace through the spread of the spirit of obedience to the Gospel of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ; that we hail with joy the dawning grace of peace beginning to illumine the consciences of men; that a Christian nation is glorified, not by the men it slays, but by the lives it keeps and the souls it saves; that it is better, wiser, nobler and braver to maintain peace by the fairest arbitration, rather than with the heaviest guns, and that we would rather fill all the arsenals with broken swords than one home with broken hearts. Millions for missions and Bibles instead of battleships!"

. . . One of the subjects offered by the directors of the Old South Historical Work, Boston, for prize essays

this year, to be written by graduates of the Boston High and Latin Schools of 1907 and 1908, is "The Relations of the United States and England during Lincoln's Administration, and the Arbitration of the Alabama Claims with the Gladstone Government." The first prize is \$40, the second \$25. The essays must be handed in by the end of January, 1909.

. . . The visit of the German pastors, more than a hundred of them, to England has been most successful. Their welcome and entertainment has left nothing to be desired. At the luncheon at the Mansion House, given them by Lord Mayor, the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishop of London, the Archbishop (Catholic) of Westminster, the German Ambassador, the Chief Rabbi, Dr. Horton and other eminent men of the English Churches were present. The pastors were shown most of the centers of religious activity in London. The reception given the visitors has greatly pleased the German Emperor and Empress, and will prove of more value in preserving England's peace with her great neighbor across the Channel than a score of the mightiest "Dreadnaughts" that she might build.

. . . Among the most important of the many peace prizes now annually offered to students in the colleges, universities and public schools, is the Charles Sumner Prize of Harvard University. So far as we remember, this was the first permanent peace prize to be founded. The recipient of the prize this year was Mr. Corning Benton, a post-graduate student of the university. His subject was "South America in the International Peace Movement." The judges were Prof. George Grafton Wilson of Brown University, lecturer on International Law at the Naval War College, Newport, A. A. Ballantine, instructor in the Harvard Law School, and James L. Tryon, Assistant Secretary of the American Peace Society. Mr. Benton's essay was a good piece of work.

. . . All peace workers will be delighted to know that from October 1 this year we are to have penny (two-cent) letter postage with Great Britain. It was a great peacemaker, Elihu Burritt, who first prominently advocated cheap foreign postage, in the interest of international acquaintance and friendship. The British Postmaster General, Mr. Buxton, in announcing the new arrangement to the House of Commons on June 3, said that "this reduction in the postage rates between the United Kingdom and the United States will, by greatly increasing the freedom of personal and commercial intercourse, not only further the many interests the two nations have in common, but also strengthen the mutual good feeling which happily exists between them." Two-cent postage with other countries will follow shortly.

. . . The visit of King Edward to Emperor Nicholas at Reval, severely criticised at home by the labor members of Parliament, on account of the severities of the Russian government toward the people, has not contributed to peaceful feeling in Europe as that of President Fallières to London has done. The Continental press is agreed, according to the British *Nation*, that an Anglo-Franco-Russian *entente* has been established. The German papers differ a good deal in their comments, but the general German view seems to be that Britain is acting in an anti-German spirit. "The Berlin Radical

press is thoroughly alarmed and angry," says the *Nation*. We hope the sequel may prove these suspicions to be groundless, as we believe it will.

## Should Any National Dispute Be Reserved from Arbitration?

BY HON. JACKSON H. RALSTON.

*Address delivered at the Pennsylvania Peace Congress, May 18, 1908.*

A man presents himself at the portals of Ellis Island. Our laws, the justice or efficacy of which we do not discuss, require us to question him. "Do you believe in organized government?" He answers, "I believe in government, of course, but let it not interfere with me. I accept it so long as it does not affect my personal independence, so long as it leaves me master of whatever concerns mine honor and permits me to avenge myself upon all who infringe upon that honor. I believe in government so long as it allows me, as sovereign over my own destiny, to determine for myself what interests are vital to me and to slay those who in my opinion trench upon them." To the man who so replies, we say: "Your recognition of government is formal; your appreciation of right as between man and man is undeveloped. If admitted to our country, you would be a danger to our well-being. In very essence you are an anarchist and as such may not enter."

Let us suppose a new state has arisen demanding recognition and admission to the family of nations. Its representatives, when entering into treaty obligations with other nations, are permitted to withdraw from submission to the judgment of any tribunal formed to adjudicate international difficulties, all questions which affect its independence, its honor or its vital interests. Whether in fact a dispute involves any of these elements, it retains, and is recognized as having a right to retain, the privilege of determining for itself. At most to-day we ask, not insist, that it shall arbitrate pecuniary claims.

When such a position is taken in international law, is not anarchy grown large legitimized? Little harm can the sentiments of one man do. His opinions and interests will be corrected and controlled by the opinions and interests of his neighbors. Perforce he must submit to the judgment of his fellows all the questions as to which theoretically he claims the right of self-determination. But when a million men, calling themselves a state — which, after all, is but a collection of human units — determines without restraint its justification for war over such questions and even settles for itself their very existence, thus claiming the right governed only by its own sense of justice to steal from and to murder another million of human units who exercise a similar power, we have chaos unspeakable — chaos legitimized. By international law, paradoxically speaking, thus we have regulated chaos. And yet analysis shows that after all there is presented to us but the simple problem with which we opened, — the right of anarchy, — a problem confused only by the indefinite multiplication of the participants.

And we will not lose sight of the fact that even as to pecuniary claims, in almost every case a nation may refuse arbitration, upon the pretence that the very advancement of such claims is a reflection upon its honor, perhaps